

ON THE OCCURRENCE OF A NEW SPECIES OF RHINOPTERA (R.
ENCENADÆ) IN TODOS SANTOS BAY, LOWER CALIFORNIA.

By ROSA SMITH.

In the year 1882, Miss Fanny E. Fish, then residing near Encenada, Lower California, found, on the beach near that place, one jaw of hexagonal teeth which evidently belong to a species of *Rhinoptera*. The teeth were sent to me for identification and have now been presented by me to the U. S. National Museum.

It is a lower jaw and has fourteen series of hexangular teeth, the sinistral outer row nearly twice as broad as the narrowest inner series, the dextral outer series a little broader, just equaling two of the narrowest series and one and a half times broader than long. The teeth of the two sides of the jaw differ from each other. Inside the sinistral outer series are four rows of smaller teeth, as broad as long, nearly uniform in shape and size, the width of the four rows collectively equaling one and two-fifths times the width of the series of the broad teeth just inside them; the teeth in this row are the broadest of the jaw and about twice as broad as long. The seventh sinistral series has teeth that are somewhat enlarged, two-thirds the diameter of the sixth and widest series just described, scarcely broader than long. Inside the dextral outer row are two rows of enlarged teeth, slightly larger than the seventh sinistral series; immediately inside these are three rows of narrow teeth, similar to the four rows of small teeth next the sinistral marginal row; the seventh dextral row and the central series contain small teeth that coalesce into a single row a little back of the center of the jaw. The jaw anteriorly has fifteen series of teeth, and posteriorly only fourteen, by the coalescence of the teeth of the central and seventh dextral series, as above stated.

The jaw is weather-worn, and has lost a few of the teeth, including both its front and back margins.

This jaw can only belong to a species of *Rhinoptera*, and among the described species the only one which closely approaches it is *Rhinoptera polyodon* Günther, based on a pair of jaws of unknown origin. From the latter it differs in being somewhat unsymmetrical, the broadest series of teeth being the sixth (from one side, eighth from the other), and also in having the teeth in smaller number (fourteen rows instead of nineteen.)

It is probable, therefore, that the jaws from Todos Santos belong to a distinct species, which I may name *Rhinoptera encenadæ*.

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